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Message Text

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ORIGIN EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 VO-03 SCA-01 PPT-01 CPR-01 SS-15
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TO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW PRIORITY
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C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 135721

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: CGEN, UR, US

SUBJECT: US-USSR CONSULAR REVIEW - SECOND ROUND

REF: MOSCOW 8247

1. DEPARTMENT CONCURS WITH EMBASSY'S ANALYSIS AND RECOMMENDED TACTICS FOR CONTINUING CONSULAR REVIEW.

2. WE DO NOT RPT NOT WISH TO RAISE WITH CALIFORNIA AUTHORITIES IDEA OF DELAYING EXTENSION OF STATE SALES TAX EXEMPTION TO SOVIET CONGEN PERSONNEL. WE HAVE NO OBJECTION TO INFORMAL ASSOCIATION OF CALIFORNIA TAX AND POINTS-OF-ENTRY-AND-EXIT ISSUES IN CONSULAR REVIEW, BUT WE WOULD NOT HAVE WANTED THE TWO FORMALLY LINKED. WE RECOGNIZE OF COURSE THAT RECIPROCAL INCREASE IN NUMBER OF POINTS-OF-ENTRY-AND-EXIT FOR DIPLOMATS IS MORE
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ADVANTAGEOUS TO US THAN SOVIETS, BECAUSE FOR REASONS OF GEOGRAPHY WE HAVE OCCASION TO USE SEVERAL BORDER POINTS IN USSR WHILE SOVIETS SELDOM HAVE CAUSE TO WANT TO USE ANY PORT-OF-ENTRY OTHER THAN JFK AND DULLES. AT YOUR DISCRETION YOU MIGHT REMIND MFA, HOWEVER, THAT WHEN SUBJECT OF ADDITIONAL POINTS WAS DISCUSSED IN 1974 AT TIME OF OPENING OF AEROFLOT SERVICE TO DULLES, SUBJECT

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OF ADDITIONAL POINT FOR AIRLINE CREWMEN WAS SEPARATED FROM

SAME SUBJECT WITH REGARD TO DIPLOMATS IN ORDER TO IMMEDIATELY ACCOMODATE AEROFLOT NEED TO HAVE BOTH JFK AND DULLES ON D VISAS OF AEROFLOT CREWMEN. EMBASSY MOSCOW SUBSEQUENTLY REACHED THREE-FOR-THREE AGREEMENT FOR DIPLOMATS WHICH IS STILL IN EFFECT, BUT WHICH HAS PROVED UNSATISFACTORY FOR US BECAUSE OF BREST PROBLEM. THUS, WHILE ADDITIONAL PORTS FOR DIPLOMATS IS LARGELY IN OUR INTEREST, HAVING TWO ALTERNATIVE PORTS FOR AIRCRAFT CREWMEN IS ALMOST ENTIRELY IN INTEREST OF SOVIETS. (THE 1974 NEGOTIATIONS WERE BETWEEN AMERICAN CONSUL AND N.G. KUSTOV, WHO IS PARTICIPANT IN CONSULAR REVIEW.)

3. WHILE DEPARTMENT CONCURS THAT EMBASSY MAY START AT ANY TIME GRANTING CATEGORY A VISAS TO CHAIRMEN AND DEPUTY CHAIRMEN OF STATE COMMITTEES WHO ENJOY RANK EQUIVALENT TO MINISTERS AND DEPUTY MINISTERS IN SOVIET SYSTEM, WE AGAIN NOTE THAT SOME STATE COMMITTEES ARE NOT OF MINISTRY STATUS IN SOVIET SYSTEM AS WE UNDERSTAND IT, AND CHAIRMEN AND DEPUTY CHAIRMEN OF THOSE STATE COMMITTEES SHOULD NOT RPT NOT RECEIVE CATEGORY A VISAS. DEPARTMENT PREVIOUSLY SENT EMBASSY LIST OF STATE COMMITTEES WHICH WE UNDERSTAND HAVE STATUS OF MINISTRIES. STATE COMMITTEES WHICH DO NOT RPT NOT HAVE SUCH STATUS INCLUDE, FOR EXAMPLE STATE COMMITTEE FOR UTILIZATION OF ATOMIC ENERGY, STATE COMMITTEE FOR SUPERVISION OF SAFE WORKING PRACTICES IN INDUSTRY AND FOR MINE SUPERVISION, ETC. TO AVOID FUTURE MISUNDERSTANDING YOU MAY WISH TO
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CLARIFY THIS POINT WITH MFA. YOU SHOULD MAKE CLEAR THAT DEPARTMENT IS NOT RPT NOT PRESUMING TO MAKE JUDGMENTS DISTINGUISHING AMONG THE STATE COMMITTEES - WE ARE ONLY RECOGNIZING DISTINCTION WHICH WE UNDERSTAND SOVIET GOVERNMENT MAKES IN ACCORDING SOME STATE COMMITTEES MINISTERIAL STATUS, BUT NOT OTHERS.

4. WE WILL COMMENT BY SEPTEL JUNE 13 RE DEPUTIES OF USSR SUPREME SOVIET.

5. DEPARTMENT WILL CHECK AGAIN WITH INS RE L PETITIONS AND WILL ADVISE.
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